

Voluntary - Public

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Venezuela

Post: Caracas

Drought Damages Planting of Corn

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

Delayed rains and dry weather in Portuguesa State are causing damage to this important agricultural area, which could result in the loss of 100,000 hectares of corn, according to producer groups. Producers also request a review of the farm-gate corn price and for finished products.

General Information:

Drought damages planting of 100,000 hectares of corn

The extended period of dry weather has reportedly resulted in the loss of some 100,000 hectares of corn in the State of Portuguesa, according to representatives of the Venezuelan Producers Association, Fedeaagro. Producers are concerned that the lack of rainfall means that they will have to replant some land, and purchase additional inputs and labor, increasing costs for what will likely be a smaller crop.

During this season, 230,000 hectares of corn are expected to be planted in Portuguesa, a

significant portion of the national projection of 750,000 hectares. From the estimated loss of 100,000 hectares, 70,000 hectares is white corn and the rest is yellow corn.

Producers request an increase of corn prices

Producers recognize the effort of government to maintain subsidies for essential items such as agricultural diesel and fertilizers (urea), but believe an urgent review of the price of corn is needed to avoid a collapse in planting next year. They have requested a review of the farm-gate corn price and a price increase for precooked corn flour, too.

Source:

Local newspapers